

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 IO-10 ORM-01 SR-02 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6988

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 391

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GR TU CY

SUBJECT: GREEK REACTION TO RELAEASE OF TURKISH REFUGEES

FROM SBA'S

REF: LONDON 571

1. MFA COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR CYPRUS AND TURKSY, ANDREAS METAXAS, TOLD EMBOFF JAN 15 THAT HE EXPECTED GOG TO REACT STRONGLY AGAINST BRITISH WHEN DECISION TO RELEASE TURKISH REFUGEES FROM SBA'S BECOMES PUBLIC. METAXAS SCORED AS "INANE" BRITISH SUGGESTION THAT RELEASE COULD ENCOURAGE TURKISH GESTURE. HE REFERRED TO TIME LAG BETWEEN BRUSSELS AGREEMENT FOR RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND FIRST REALLY SUBSTANTIVE MEETING JAN 14 DURING WHICH TIME NON-PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGES OVER GUARANTEES TOOK PLACE AS INDICATIVE OF TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE. AMBASSADOR METAXAS EXPRESSED VIEW TURKS HAVE NO INTENTION OF MAKING GESTURE OR TAKING STANCE THAT WOULD PRESAGE CONCESSIONS.

2. WITH REFERENCE TO NEWS REPORT IN ATHENS PRESS OF POSSIBILITY OF ADDING CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERTS AGAIN TO INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, METAXAS POINTED OUT THAT PRESS SUGGESTION THAT CLERIDES MIGHT SEEK EUROPEAN FOR THIS
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POSITION WOULD ALLOW GREK/CYPRIOT SIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY
AND PRESENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DISTANCING ITSELF FROM ATHENS

IF SO DESIRED. METAXAS CONCLUDED THAT RELAUNCHING TALKD
WAS HIGHLY CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT BUT BY DISPOSITION AND
FROM EXPERIENCE WITH CYPRUS HE COULD NOT BE OPTIMISTIC.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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